

## ABSTRACT

The present invention is a system and method for rapid network failure detection,  
5 identification and notification to internet users. It is particular applicable to VoIP  
applications where such real-time problem identification is particular valuable. It reduces  
failure detection time by coordinating the sending frequency of RTP and RTCP packets.  
These incoming packets are monitored and the failure to receive a predetermined number  
in a specified time window indicates that a network problem has occurred. This problem  
10 is then promptly communicated to users of the system.